MR. MCWILLIAMS-CHAIRMAN, AMERICAN LITERATURE

The Am. Lit. department deals with Negro writers in several courses. Every other year, a Negro Literature course is offered. The major figures covered are Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, James Baldwin, and Langston Hughes. Starr Library is very supportive of the departments requests. Mr. McWilliams asked to be quoted on the following:

> I regret that although we listed black literature as a specialty for our two new positions, applicants with this specialty were few and those who did specify black literature as a strength were of a lesser quality.

Mr. McWilliams also felt that a major problem in bringing black faculty to Middlebury was the remote location of the College.

MR. PROUTY-CHAIRMAN, PSYCHOLOGY

The Psychology department offers no courses that deal specifically with blacks. One of their courses deals briefly with prejudice. The Child Psychology course deals most directly with blacks in its discussion of black vs. white childrearing practices. The department's approach to psychology is a broad view of the psychology of people, not of individuals or specific groups. Mr. Prouty did mention that a black student once did a presentation of on growing up black. The major problem that Mr. Prouty cited as an obstacle to further implementation of black study in psychology is the lack of definitive source material on the subject. He did say that when he sees a book that contains a worthwhile section on black psychology he orders it through Starr Library which is supportive of these orders.

MR. FERM-CHAIRMAN, RELIGION

Mr. Ferm stated that black religious thought is studied to some extent in two of the department's courses: The Shaping of American Religious Life and the seminar on American Religious

History. The approach to these courses is studying the basic religious beliefs and following the transformation into the derivative religious beliefs. Mr. Ferm has done a great deal of ordering of books on black theology. Most student interest has been from black students. Mr. Ferm did say that given another faculty member, the department would consider adding a course in black religious thought.

MR. ANDREWS-CHAIRMAN, SOCIOLOGY

The Sociology department deals with blacks in several courses. The most prominent of these is Ethnic Groups in America. This course uses one text that deals exclusively with black sociology. Mr. Andrews stated that few black students have taken this course and he tended to doubt that this was because of their not knowing about it. He also stated that this course drew its students because they had an interest in ethnicity. Mr. Andrews stated that the department will continue to study black sociology in its courses. The department's orders are supported by the library.

MR. BARENBAUM-CHAIRMAN, FRENCH

Mr. Barenbaum was the most open teacher I talked with. This Winter Term, the French department is offering a course in French-African literature to be taught by Claire Schub, a new professor who has a special interest in African literature. This course is being offered in English. Professor Knox offered a similar course once before which was not well received. Mr. Barenbaum attributed this to the fact that the course was offered in French. On the intermediate level, the department has introduced the study of a French- African poem which has been well received by the students. Mr. Barenbaum said the department is trying to expand the scope of their program to cover Quebec and Africa as well as France. He saw the problems with this expansion to be twofold. Limited personnel and course numbers prevent any expansion. The personnel

is generally classically trained and if a course was to be added, another would have to be dropped. Mr. Barenbaum had a very positive outlook for his department in terms of black studies. He said that African films were a regular part of the curriculum, especially this Winter Term. He gave me this parting statement: "Students are very conservative about what they don't know about."